--- 25 Cigarettes - Series “C” - three digit codes - as used by “Imperial Tobacco” - 1951-56 ---

--- parallel numbers - in RED ink - reading vertically down ---

--- ★RC-394 - initially with 6-10D reading *horizontally upright* at the bottom - 51 copies to date ---

[★RC-394]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1951	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1952	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	230	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---			
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---				
1953	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	262	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	265
1954	---	---	---	272	276	---	284	288	---	---	---	---
	---	269	---	---	277	281	285	289	---	---	---	305
				274	---	---	---	290	---	---	---	306
				275	279	283	287	---	---	---	---	307
1955	308	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	340	344	---	---
	309	313	---	321	---	329	333	337	---	---	---	---
	310	---	318	---	---	330	---	338	---	---	---	---
	311	---	319	---	---	---	335	---	---	347	---	---
1956	---	360	364	368	---	376	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	366	370	---	---	382	---	---	---	---	---
	359	---	367	371	375	379	383	---	---	---	---	---

--- in the red codes [382 / 6-10D] and [383 / 6-10D] show the company code in the cancellation ---

I think that “Imperial Tobacco” had taken over the production of cigarettes for “Tuckett Tobacco” at this time. They were coding their own brands with **383/6-10D**, and coding “Tuckett Tobacco” brands with **383/1-18E**.

--- 25 Cigarettes - Series “C” - two digit codes – used by “Imperial Tobacco” - 1956-64 ---

--- parallel numbers - in RED ink - reading vertically down ---

Following the three digit series are several two digit series using aligned twin 5 mm. Gothic numbers, reading *vertically down*, with the company code (6-10D) in 3 mm. pica Gothic reading *horizontally across* at the bottom of the stamp. Initially the *plain-stick* (**l**) is found - these follow logically from the above three-digit series, as the same type face was used for **38 l**, and later these are followed by the *serifed* (**1**) number ones, dating from around 1964 (the stamp colour by 1964 has gone from black to grey), which precede the reversed company code (**0D-6**) beginning at **23** in March 1964. These two digit numbers record *months of production*.

--- ★RC-394 - with 6-10D reading *horizontally across* at the bottom - 89 copies top date ---

[★RC-394]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1956	--	--	--	--	--	l l	l 2	l 4	--	l 6	l 7	l 8
1957	l 9	20	--	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1958	3 l	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	--	42
1959	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	--	52	53	54
1960	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66
1961	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
1962	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
1963	--	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	--	--	14
1964	--	--	17	--	19	20	--	--	--	--	--	--
	plus	--	2 C	3C	--	--	--					

--- 25 Cigarettes - Series “C” - two digit codes - as used by “Imperial Tobacco” - 1964-68 ---

--- parallel numbers - in RED ink - reading vertically down ---

--- ★RC-394 - with the company code 10D-6 reading *vertically down* at the right side - 13 copies to date ---

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1964	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1965	--	--	--	30	--	32	--	--	--	36	--	--
1966	--	--	--	--	43	44	45	46	47	--	--	--
1967	--	--	--	--	--	--	57	--	--	--	--	62
1968	63	64	65	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

The reversed company coding beginning at **23** is attributed to March 1965 by an old collector however I find that it fits into the production in about September 1964. Perhaps he was indicating his 1965 date of purchase.

--- 25 Cigarettes - “Wings Series” - two digit codes - as used by “Imperial Tobacco” – 1968-74 ---

--- parallel numbers - in RED ink - reading vertically down ---

--- ★RC-817 - with the company code reading *vertically down* at the right side - 34 copies to date ---

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1968	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	71	--	73	--
1969	75	76	77	78	--	80	81	--	83	84	85	86
1970	87	88	89	--	--	92	93	--	95	11	--	--
1971	--	16	17	--	--	--	--	22	--	24	--	--
1972	--	--	--	--	31	--	--	--	35	36	--	38
1973	39	40	41	--	--	--	--	46	--	--	49	--
1974	--	--	--	54	--	56	--	58	--	--	--	--

The number series ends in August 1974 at **58**. In the general collection there is a block of **RC-817** numbered in black ink **59** by *Peter Jackson* [**1-17E**] showing diagonal scratch marks across the cancellation plate.

Top date I have not found a copy of the “Wings” series coded with **96**; **97**; **98** or **99**.in any of the Imperial Tobacco factories. I think the sequence goes from **95** to **11**and as always omits **13**.

Ion the later years the cigarette production from “Imperial Tobacco” was gradually being assumed regionally by “Peter Jackson” plant in Guelph, Ontario [**1-17E**] and by “B. Houde & Grothe” [**1-13D**] in Quebec City. The Montreal plant was probably being used to produce *lesser selling* off-brand cigarettes.

File path is [c:\ MS - STAMPS \ RC_STAMPS \ 1935 - Series C \ 25 cigarettes \ 6-10D - small - red digits],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
December 30th 2013, JBH